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In France, missionaries witness through football

By Mike Creswell

PARIS (BP) — The center snaps the ball, lines of beefy players crunch, the quarterback fades back to pass....

Wait a minute! American football in France? What's going on here?

And what are Southern Baptist missionaries doing coaching both sides?

It all began when missionaries David Murray and Rod Boatwright — both football fans — looked for new ways to meet people to share the gospel.

The April game at a stadium in Paris ended in a 6-6 tie. Murray's team scored a touchdown but failed in an extra-point attempt. Boatwright's squad made two field goals.

About 70 teams play in the French Federation of American Football. Most players are unpaid amateurs, but the league attracts a few Americans who receive small stipends and living expenses to play.

Murray, of Zachary, La., arrived in France in 1987. Based in Tours, he coordinates services for other Southern Baptist missionaries coming there to study the French language. Some of the students stay in France; more often they head on to West Africa or some other French-speaking country.

Murray heard rumors American football was played in the area. He had to ask at a sporting goods store where games were played, since they weren't highly publicized. That's because "football" in Europe, and most everywhere else, means teams of men in shorts kicking a round soccer ball.

American football has the same following in France that soccer has in the United States — some inter-

est, but far short of Super Bowl-level enthusiasm. But just as soccer has gained wider acceptance in the States in recent years, American-style football has grown in Europe. Exhibition games by American pro teams have helped make Europeans aware of the bone-crunching sport.

When Murray found the local team, the players asked him to coach. Before injuries sidelined him, he played tackle for two years while a student at Mississippi College back in ... well, some time back. Football fever ran in his family; he was chaplain for high schools in Franklinton and Zachary, La., during the 1970s, and his brother played for Louisiana State University.

"If I can't lead them to the Lord, I can at least teach them some lessons to help them live better lives."

— Rod Boatwright, talking about the members of his Paris football team

"I always had a secret desire to coach, but I would tell my wife, Barbara, and she would chuckle, so I never followed up on it," he said.

But his coaching success in France gives him the last chuckle. Murray brought an American's enthusiasm and an inborn sense of the game that is more or less part of an American's heritage.

In 1988, his first year coaching in France, his team was on proba-

tion as a new entrant to the league. But in 1989 the team won the national championship in the third division. The next season it played in the more demanding second division and won enough games to make it one of the top four teams. It lost in the semifinals.

The team missed being No. 1 in 1991 only by losing the final game. Last season it won the conference title but was knocked out early in the play-offs.

Rod Boatwright's Paris team also reached the top of its conference last season. Like Murray, Boatwright didn't exactly make football a career. He played in high school in his hometown, the Atlanta suburb of Chamblee, Ga., but lacked the size for college ball. When one of his major interests in life was denied him, he instead turned his attention to Christ. "The Lord became my new passion," he recalled. But he kept a lifelong interest in sports.

After Boatwright arrived in France to study French, he was asked to referee a football game for a local team. When the team members saw an American well-informed on football they asked him to help coach.

Boatwright abruptly found himself trying to recall training exercises from 18 years before. "I had to work on remembering the finer points of the game," he admitted. He also had to be creative, since the team lacks training equipment — no blocking sleds, for example. But three Americans, who joined the team fresh from university play, helped him update techniques.

Both missionaries give New Testaments and Scripture portions to players and talk openly about their



David Murray (second from right), Southern Baptist missionary and part-time football coach in a French amateur football league, discusses second-half strategy with his players during the halftime break. Murray and missionary colleague Rod Boatwright blend coaching and evangelism to reach people for Christ in a country where American football is viewed with curiosity but is gaining in popularity. (BP photo by Mike Creswell)

faith in Jesus Christ. Murray's home church, First Church in Zachary, sent New Testaments for him to distribute.

On long bus trips across France, both missionaries counsel players about many topics other than football — relationship problems, family problems, spiritual needs. Murray has helped conduct several funerals of players' family members, an indication of his acceptance as a spiritual leader.

"If I can't lead them to the Lord, I can at least teach them some lessons to help them live better lives," Boatwright said. "I can help them learn to control their tempers in difficult situations and to think under pressure. Another goal both of us have is to give Protestants in general and Baptists in particular a good image."

Most French people are not familiar with Baptists and assume

they're some oddball sect, not a mainline evangelical group.

Boatwright will complete an apprenticeship at a Paris-area church this summer and will move to Nancy, France, to work with a growing Baptist church. He already has talked with the local American football team about helping out.

Football has helped Murray win acceptance in the community. Since he and his family were on furlough in the United States early in 1993, he missed much of last season. But when he returned to France in March the local newspaper did a story — complete with photograph — about his return. In France, coverage of an evangelical Christian in secular newspapers is rare. The players in Tours think highly of Murray, the article observed.

Creswell writes for FMB.

Pastor marks milestone

David A. Millican, 58, pastor of South McComb Church in McComb, has passed the 30-year mark in the pulpit of that southwest Mississippi church. The Hamilton, Alabama native came to South McComb in July of 1963 from First Church in Stonewall. Prior to that, he served as pastor of Pecan Grove Church in Ellisville and at two churches in Alabama.

Millican has been a member of the Miss. Baptist Convention Board (1969-75), the Board of Ministerial Education (1992-93), and was elected second vice-president of the Miss. Baptist Convention in 1979. He served three terms as moderator of Pike Association and has been chairman of evangelism for both Pike and Clarke Associations.

Millican holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from William Carey College in Hattiesburg, a Master of Divinity degree from New Orleans Seminary, and a Doctor of Ministry degree from Luther Rice Seminary.



Millican

Little Bahala observes 175th

Little Bahala Church in Wesson (Lincoln Association) will celebrate its 175th anniversary during the church's annual homecoming on Sunday, Aug. 8. Sunday School will begin at 10 a.m., followed by worship service at 11 a.m. with Edgar Wright of New

Sight Church in Brookhaven as guest speaker. Dinner on the grounds will follow the worship service, and there will be an afternoon singing that will include a short anniversary program.

Musical guests will be the Beeson Family of Brookhaven. Former pastors are urged to attend. A revival will be conducted Aug. 9-13, with nightly services beginning at 7. Edgar Wright will be the evangelist, and Proby Castilaw of Little Bahala Church will lead the music. Frank Leggett is pastor.



Looking back...

10 years ago

Bart Jones, 14, of Hattiesburg, was named guest artist-in-residence with the Paris Boys Choir in Paris. Jones is the son of Bob Jones, who was minister of music at Main Street Church in Hattiesburg.

20 years ago

Fifteen young people from Broadmoor Church in Jackson returned from a three-week bicycle tour of Europe, where they witnessed and tossed frisbees containing Bible verses.

30 years ago

The first seven of an expected 200 Mississippi Baptist laymen were recruited to participate in the giant West Coast Laymen's Crusade.

EDITOR'S NOTEBOOK

Guy Henderson

Family meltdown

The healing of our nation should be Priority One. Seemingly, we are unraveling at the seams; the threads of yesterday have been sabotaged. 2 Chronicles 7:14 has been ignored, and brokenness, humility, and repentance are not on the agenda. Hopelessness and the willingness to accept whatever the world offers is seen more often. Are we becoming like the frog in tepid water; just making adjustments as the heat is turned up? The family meltdown is society's Chernobyl and is spewing forth its deadly acid into all facets of our nation. Can we do nothing but wring our hands? We are terribly busy "here and there," but what is the priority? Must we continue to tune our fiddles while America burns?

In 1960 one in 10 children did not live with two parents; today that number is three in 10. In 30 years we've gone from 5% of babies being born to unwed mothers to 27%. Increasingly, it is children who are having children.

Sexually transmitted disease is alarming — the number of sexually active teenagers has doubled. Child abuse reports have tripled in the past 30 years. The American Psychological Association rates the decline of the family as a major threat to mental health.

David G. Myers, in *Perspective* magazine, discounts the idea that

throwing more money around will solve these problems. He quotes Vice President Gore: "The accumulation of material goods is at an all-time high, but so is the number of people who feel an emptiness in their lives." Sound the alarm: the two-parent family and its children are in trouble, Myers declared.

In Japan, 5.9% of homes are headed by a single parent. In America, that number is 22.9%, says Michael J. McManus in his book *Marriage Savers*. What kind of marriage partners are these children apt to be?

Josh McDowell's "Why Wait" series should be made available to youth groups. The Baptist Sunday School Board's "True Love Waits" abstinence campaign is having some success, and the \$3 packet is available from the board.

Where is the church in this moral quagmire? The church is doing a lot in single ministries, marriage counseling, and divorce recovery seminars. Is there more we can do? Are we consciously seeking to train our children for marriage? Does your church have a program of premarital training and of post-marital help?

Whatever we do must be done now. In 1970 there were slightly more than half million unmarried couples living together. Today there are over three million cohabiting couples. McManus calls it "a

cancer eating away at the front end of the institution of marriage."

The meltdown is awesome. Emotional scars will haunt us for generations as the fabric of our society is rent asunder. Only 55% of adults are married today — the lowest figure ever. Some 10 million children have seen their parents weather a divorce. Along with this comes the alimony, child support, poverty, discouragement, lack of a role model, and the devastation of the family structure.

A century ago they reportedly tested mental patients by turning a water tap on, giving the patient a mop, and telling him to mop up the water. If he turned the water tap off and then mopped, they would let him return to society. If he did nothing but mop and mop, they kept him institutionalized.

The overflow from the meltdown is reaping more attention than the cause. We mop much and often. Isn't it time to turn off the water tap? We can begin at the front by beginning marriage preparation with the birth of a child.

Our stand for righteous living must be made known, but the healing of the land still depends on God's people to "humble themselves, pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways, then ... will forgiveness and healing come."

DIVINE PRESCRIPTION



THE FRAGMENTS



The house that love built

Pastor D.C. Applegate was an unusual person. He learned how to minister to others and was willing for others to minister to him. For 17 years he was pastor of First Church, Starkville. Professors, students, business people, and blue collar workers made up the congregation.

Applegate realized that preaching was only a part of pastoring a church. He and his wife Kate adopted the town and the college as their parish, and Mississippi State and Starkville adopted them. They opened their home to people away from home and ministered to the area day by day.

The church was stunned when Applegate came down with multiple sclerosis. Unable to live in a house with narrow door and stairs, the congregation built a house for him. The new home had wide doors and many other accommodations for the wheel-chair patient. Applegate was amazed, and the generous congregation loved him for it. Even the college students, moved by the messenger in the wheel-chair, added their labor and modest gifts to "the house that love built."

It was a Sunday morning in

1970 when I went to Starkville to deliver a missionary sermon. I was surprised to see the pastor in the wheel-chair and assumed it was temporary. He had a marvelous way of putting you at ease and a superb attitude about his condition. On the way from the study to the pulpit, it was an eye-opener to see his skillful technique in ministering. He made no effort to elicit pity but rode the wheel-chair as a chariot of service. Little children stopped to hug him, one offered him the "I-love-you" picture she had made in Sunday School. He consoled, comforted, and encouraged the children, the elderly, and in general moved with compassion toward the worship center.

That was 23 years ago, but I still remember how the man ministered to me. The Healer was in the house that day. It was a church filled with love, a family of faith, and the overflow filled the temple. It marked a memorable day of what the elements of worship can do. Love enables a person to see clearer, overcome obstacles, and minister to the family. And, in my case, to the "stranger within thy gates." — GH

Speaker asks seminar attendees:

Faith to witness stronger than fear?

By David Winfrey

GLORIETA, N.M. (BP) — Christians afraid of witnessing should trust the same faith they used to receive salvation, a seminar speaker said during Home Missions Week.

"It takes the same faith to witness that it does to receive Jesus as Savior," said Stan Clark, a Mission Service Corps volunteer with the Home Mission Board's Personal Evangelism Department.

Fear is natural but God intends for Christians to overcome it and share their faith with others, Clark said.

"Fear is Satan's secret agent, the anchor that holds us back from sharing our faith. If we don't overcome the fear, Satan will silence us."

Fear can actually be beneficial, Clark said, because it humbles the witness to rely on God and points the person being witnessed to toward the power of God, not the power of the witness.

"Fear keeps us from appearing

cold or too professional," he said. "Fear (also) elicits the sympathetic listening of the lost person."

Christians should not assume that fear is God's way of telling them that witnessing is not their gift. "Witnessing is something God wants all of us to do, and he has equipped all of us to do."

Clark recalled one person who was saved after listening to an elderly woman present the gospel by nervously reading a tract. The listener wasn't originally interested, he said, but was impressed that she would take the trouble to witness despite being obviously uncomfortable.

Clark defined five ways to help overcome the fear of witnessing:

— Have a plan. "It helps to overcome fear to know you have a planned approach."

— Know the purpose. Realize that witnessing is the fulfillment of God's plan for Christians, he said.

— Pray. Be in communion with God to seek his direction and inter-

vention in the life of the person being witnessed to, he said.

— Presume all people are lost and receptive. "Most people really want to know how they can be properly related with the Lord."

— Practice. Begin to feel more comfortable hearing yourself present the gospel, he said.

"One thing you can be sure of is you have everything you need to be the witness God wants you to be," Clark said. "If you want to defeat Satan, then be obedient when you have the opportunity to witness."

Clark said Christians should be more concerned about being faithful to opportunities than the response of the person being witnessed to.

"Not everybody will respond, but everybody ought to have the opportunity to respond," he said. "The only way that's going to happen is for every Christian to be obedient."

Winfrey is associate editor, News and Information, HMB.

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Editor.....Guy Henderson
Associate Editor.....William H. Perkins Jr.
Advertising/News writer.....Teresa Dickens
Editorial Associate.....Florence Larrimore
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Money, supplies, people needed for ongoing cleanup efforts

By Sarah Zimmerman

ATLANTA (BP) — To assist flood victims and cleanup efforts in the Midwest, send money, send supplies, or send yourself, say disaster relief coordinators.

"We need people with shovels, water hoses, and bleach," said Steve Melvin, home missionary and Brotherhood director for Iowa Southern Baptists.

Volunteers for ongoing cleanup projects will be coordinated by the Home Mission Board's short-term Volunteer Department. State conventions are using a computer program written by HMB staff to track where volunteers are working and where volunteers are needed.

To volunteer, contact the HMB

Volunteer Department at 1-800-HMB-VOLS.

Brotherhood volunteers are serving food and beginning the "mud-out" process. In addition, four Southern Baptist chaplains are working with disaster relief feeding units to minister to people being fed.

The Home Mission Board, Brotherhood Commission, and state conventions in affected areas are accepting financial contributions for disaster relief. The Brotherhood Commission is seeking donations to offset the cost of a \$25,000 water purification unit.

The Home Mission Board also purchased a \$25,000 water purification unit, plus provided \$90,000

from disaster and hunger relief funds.

Disaster relief funds can be spent for items such as bedding and medicine. Hunger relief funds are used only for food. Neither fund is used for administrative costs.

Money sent to the Home Mission Board can be earmarked for specific states. Money designated for disaster relief or hunger relief but not for a certain state is distributed based on requests from state Baptist conventions.

Checks sent through the Home Mission Board for disaster relief or hunger relief can be mailed to 1350 Spring Street, NW, Atlanta, GA 30367-5601. Contributions to the Brotherhood Commission can

be sent to 1548 Poplar Avenue, Memphis, TN 38104.

Materials needed for cleanup projects include disinfectant, bleach, detergent, mops and extra mop heads, brooms, heavy-duty squeegees and gloves, square-nosed shovels, rubber boots, heavy-duty hoses, chain saws, sump pumps, high-pressure nozzles, hammers, saws, sheetrock, lumber, and nails.

Donations can be sent to a warehouse in St. Louis. Lance Long, area campus minister, suggested people call before they send supplies to be sure the items they intend to send are still needed. For information, call the St. Louis Metro Baptist Association at (314)

569-1190.

Iowa Southern Baptists do not need shovels, rubber boots, rubber gloves, chain saws or saws, said Richard Lamborn, state director of missions. They do need other cleaning items, plus ready-to-eat baby formula, non-perishable food, personal hygiene products, blankets, children's summer clothes, adult work clothes, diapers, linens, garbage cans, and stuffed animals for children.

Lamborn also suggested donors call first to be sure their items are still needed. He can be reached at (515) 278-1566.

Illinois Baptists do not yet have a system to receive supplies.

Zimmerman writes for HMB.

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Youth Night '93 — 18,000 attendance tops prior record of 12,000

Approximately 18,000 young people attended Mississippi Baptist Youth Night at the Mississippi Memorial Stadium in Jackson last Friday. The musical group Truth, musician Byron Cutrer, and evangelist Dave Busby were platform personalities. Pictured

(top photo) are the youths responding to the invitation to make spiritual decisions. Paired with trained counselors are the 516 who made decisions. Among those were 117 professions of faith. Sponsored by the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, this

Youth Night drew the largest crowd ever. Formerly held in the Mississippi Coliseum, the highest attendance previously totaled about 12,000.

L. Graham Smith, chairman of the Youth Night Committee, and director of the Church Music Department of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, said, "I am thankful Youth Night was so successful. The committee took a step of faith in moving from the coliseum to the stadium, and God blessed it in an unusual way."

Other members of the Youth Night Committee are: Phil Walker, Gary Maze, Jim Lott, Rocky Henriques Jr., Larry Salter, Susan Clark, and Eric Barron.

ATLANTA (ABP) — Missions veteran Harlan Spurgeon has been elected associate missions coordinator for the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship.

Spurgeon, 62, was elected unanimously July 28 by the Fellowship's Global Missions Ministry Group. His responsibilities begin Aug. 1.

Spurgeon recently left his post as vice president of the office of mission personnel at the Foreign Mission Board, citing philosophical differences with trustee leaders.

He is the third high-level FMB administrator to join the two-year-old Fellowship since February. He joins former FMB President Keith Parks, now Fellowship global missions coordinator, and former FMB Vice President for the Americas Betty Law, now Fellowship associate missions coordinator.

Spurgeon will assume three primary assignments: coordinating the missionary appointment and orientation process, directing the Fellowship's missions program among internationals in the United States, and developing a program of urban evangelism and ministry in major urban centers in

the U.S. and other parts of the world.

Parks praised Spurgeon as "a tremendous addition to our team. He brings a lifetime of proven experience and missions leadership and a broad network of trusted relationships."

"Our missions program is growing so rapidly that we simply could not afford the downtime that would be required to train and orient someone with less experience," Parks added. "Harlan can hit the ground running and enable us to move forward immediately in some critical areas."

The most pressing need, Parks said, is to activate a process for screening mission applicants and training new missionaries. The Fellowship's Global Missions Ministry Group hopes to double its current missionary corps of 20 by next spring.

Spurgeon, and his wife, Joann, were missionaries to Taiwan from 1957 to 1972. He served as pastor of First Church, Bolivar, Mo., for seven years and then as president of Southwest Baptist University in Bolivar for four years before rejoining the FMB as vice president in 1983.

James Sullivan's wife, Velma, dies

NASHVILLE (BP) — Velma Scott Sullivan, 80, wife of James L. Sullivan, retired Baptist Sunday School Board president, died at their home in Nashville July 29 after a lengthy illness.

A native of Crystal Springs, she was married to Sullivan in 1935, having earned a bachelor's degree from Blue Mountain College the year before their marriage. For most of their married life, she filled the role of pastor's wife and supported Sullivan as corporate executive the 22 years (1953-75) he led the Sunday School Board.

Sullivan often said he knew his wife had been the right choice because she was "the only girl I

ever dated," adding they had dated a grand total of five times. Mrs. Sullivan would counter, "We've been doing our courting since our marriage."

Sullivan said two of his wife's contributions were "to preschool children and young wives, helping build strong Christian homes."

Herschel Hobbs, pastor emeritus of First Church in Oklahoma City and a lifelong friend of the Sullivans, described Mrs. Sullivan as "one of the finest Christian women I ever knew. She was deeply spiritual and had a brilliant personality to go with it. I count it a blessing to have known her."

In addition to her husband, she is

survived by their three children, Mary Beth Taylor of Nashville, an employee of the BSSB; Martha Lynn Porch of

Tulahoma, Tenn., wife of the executive director of the Tennessee Baptist Convention; and James David Sullivan of Oxford. She is also survived by seven grandchildren; five great-grandchildren; and two sisters, Edith Wells of Columbus, and Bettye Fuselier of Pittsfield, Mass.



Sullivan





Brookhaven residents who participated in a World Changers project in Houston, Texas, are (from left): Kyle Brady and Phil Turner of Easthaven Church; Sissy Sones of First Church; and Dara Callender, Becki Callender, Marc Ginn, and Buster Buitt of Easthaven.

Brookhaven residents take part in Houston World Changers work

Six members of Easthaven Church, Brookhaven, and one member of First Church, Brookhaven, joined more than 250 Southern Baptist youths and their leaders June 12-19 for a World Changers Project in Houston, Texas.

World Changers, sponsored by the Brotherhood Commission of the SBC, is a co-educational missions project for youths that focuses on missions education and missions involvement.

Participants were divided into work crews and given names such as "Toe Nails," "Hammerheads," and "Vice Grips." Work crews were led by individuals with construction experience.

Evenings were devoted to crew meetings and a worship service led by Dave Paxton, youth minister from Pensacola, Fla.

Work on 20 projects in several of Houston's poorest residential areas continued through the week. Projects included painting, building porches, and roofing.

"This is a miracle that has happened because the young people wanted to do this for my family," said Blanca Padilla, a Houston resident. A World Changers crew laid a new roof and made structural repairs in Padilla's home.

Meeting youths from other churches, learning to cooperate

and work as a team were said to be the best aspects of the week. Other participants said they enjoyed spending time with those for whom they were working and seeing the job completed.

Dara Callender, age 16, was unsure why she had come to World Changers when she first arrived in Houston and realized the difficult week that lay ahead. Later she said, "I knew that if I would quit thinking about myself and help the people, that God would do something wonderful through World Changers."

Phil Turner, youth minister at Easthaven, said World Changers was "a week of intense, sacrificial servanthood."

According to Andy Morris, national director of the program, "World Changers instills in youth an attitude of giving. They spend the entire week thinking of nothing else but others. We hope this selflessness will catch on and they will take it home with them."

More than 4,000 youths and their leaders will participate in the 13 World Changers projects in 1993, including one in Clarksdale, this week.

For 1994, 20 projects are already scheduled, plus World Changers experiences for college/career adults, single adults, and senior adults.

Senate OKs D.C. bill funding local abortions

WASHINGTON (ABP) — The U.S. Senate approved a spending bill July 27 that permits the District of Columbia to pay for abortions for poor women.

The measure, part of the District budget for fiscal year 1994, would reverse a position Congress took in 1988. The budget was approved 70 to 29; the U.S. House of Representatives previously approved a similar bill by only two votes (213-211).

The District will not be able to use federal money to pay for abortions, but the measure permits it to

use local money. A law, known as the Hyde amendment, prohibits the use of federal funds for abortions.

The Senate also followed the House by rejecting a provision for an insurance program for city workers that would have allowed unmarried employees to designate a "domestic partner" for coverage on their policies. Opponents say the measure was an attempt to legitimize homosexuality.

The bill will go to a House-Senate conference committee, which will iron out the differences in the two bills.

Bonds called back to former mission field, Hong Kong

By Don T. McGregor

A former Mississippi missionary couple who served in Hong Kong has been asked by Hong Kong Baptist Seminary to return there to provide engineering help for the relocation of that institution.

The former missionaries are Marvin and Jean Bond of Starkville. Marvin Bond recently retired after 20 years on the faculty of Mississippi State University. At MSU he was professor of civil engineering and director of the Water Resources Research Institute.

First Church, Starkville, had a commissioning service and farewell for the Bonds during the morning worship service on July 25. That was the Bonds' last service there before visiting relatives prior to their journey.

The Bonds will leave Jackson Aug. 16 to return to the mission field where they spent five years from 1961 to 1966. They will be gone for about 18 months.

While they are away, another Mississippi missionary couple, Paul and Margie Thibodeaux, will live in their home in Starkville. The Thibodeauxs are on furlough from their assignment with the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship.

Hong Kong Baptist Seminary is located in downtown Kowloon, a busy commercial area. Kowloon is on a peninsula located across Hong Kong harbor from Hong Kong Island. Beyond Kowloon on the peninsula are located the New Territories, where the seminary will find its new home.

There is no Foreign Mission Board financing going to the seminary, though some missionaries on salary from the Foreign Mission Board still teach there. The semi-

nary belongs to the Hong Kong Baptist Convention. The convention also operates Hong Kong Baptist College, and that is where the Bonds served during their earlier tenure in Hong Kong.

Hong Kong Baptist Convention has 50 churches and 30 chapels. A new church will be on the grounds of the new seminary.

In addition to the mission opportunities with the Chinese people

and others who live permanently in Hong Kong, another mission field is tied up at the docks of Hong Kong harbor. People from China, Vietnam, and the Philippines live on boats in the harbor.

Missions work is plentiful there, Bond said.

Though the Bonds are anxious to resume their missionary endeavors among the Chinese, they will not be affiliated with a mission-sending operation during this venture. The seminary will pay their traveling expenses and provide housing. There will be no salary other than their retirement income.

The Bonds declare that, though they have been away from the Orient for 27 years, their call to work with Chinese people has never changed. One example is when they took into their home a young Chinese woman who was a student at Mississippi State.

In a short time, under the Bonds' witness, she had made a profession of faith and was baptized at First Church. Then her preteen daughter came to live with her in the Bonds' home, and she made a profession of faith. When her husband came for a visit, of course he also made a profession of faith; and the family circle was complete.

In recent years the Bonds have both served as deacons at First Church, Starkville, sometimes at the same time. She was also on the Coordinating Council of the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship and resigned that post when the project in Hong Kong became a reality. She was co-chair of the global missions committee for the Fellowship.

McGregor is editor emeritus of the BAPTIST RECORD.



Marvin and Jean Bond of Starkville will leave for Hong Kong Aug. 16 for an 18-month mission project with the Hong Kong Baptist Seminary.

"COPE," Aug. 16-20 —

ACTS week of broadcast focuses on families under fire, children's needs

FORT. WORTH, Texas (BP) — "Families Under Fire" is the Aug. 16-20 emphasis of "COPE," the daily call-in talk show seen on the ACTS Network at 11 a.m. EST. It is the first time the nine-year-old program has carried the same theme through an entire week.

Host Karen Hayter will have five guests during the week, each to discuss issues affecting American families.

"Kids Out of Control" is the subject of Monday's discussion with Paul Warren, a behavioral pediatrician and adolescent specialist, who will discuss such topics as hyperactivity, depression, oppositional diagnosis, and temper tantrums. Warren's most recent book is *Things That Go Bump in the Night*.

The topic Tuesday is "Blessing Your Children," based on guest John Trent's book, *The Blessing*.

The discussion centers on the idea that all are given a blessing from their parents in the form of self-worth, but many do not receive the blessing. The focus is on recovering from not receiving the blessing and on how parents can pass the blessing on to their children. Trent is president of Encouraging Words ministry. He teams with Gary Smalley in teaching marriage seminars nationwide.

Wednesday, psychologist and lecturer Joyce Buckner's subject is "Broken Hearts, Broken Homes." She deals with guilt, shame, feelings of abandonment, and recovery from rejection in relation to divorce.

Frank Minirth talks about "Marriages that Go the Distance" Thursday. He focuses on subject matter from his book, *The Passages of Marriage*, which presents the idea that all marriages go

through stages. If couples understand the stages, they are better equipped to keep a marriage healthy. Minirth is a psychiatrist and president of the Minirth-Meier Clinic in Richardson, Texas.

"Media and Morality" is Ted Baehr's subject Friday. He discusses the declining moral culture and need to train oneself to discern the subtle messages of the mass media that are in conflict with Judeo-Christian ideals. Baehr is chairman of the Atlanta-based Christian Film and Television Commission and publisher of *Movieguide*, a family guide to movies and entertainment.

ACTS is a faith and family cable television service of the Southern Baptist Radio and Television Commission, reaching 19 million homes through VSN/ACTS, the Faith and Values Channel.

Elders appears headed for Senate confirmation

WASHINGTON (BP) — Controversial Surgeon General-designate Joycelyn Elders appeared headed for confirmation after facing tough questioning from only one senator during her confirmation hearing.

The Senate Labor and Human Resources Committee voted July 30 to recommend Elders to the full Senate. Action by the full Senate should occur during August.

Elders' views on abortion and sexuality have produced opposition from some religious and conservative organizations.

While not retreating from her support of abortion rights, Medicaid funding of abortion, sex education and condom distribution in public schools, Elders seemed to temper some of her previous comments. She also contended some of her statements had been taken out of context or she had been misquoted.

"You know, when those statements are just statements out there, out of a context of a whole speech," Elders said, "...the flavoring becomes very different."

Elders, director of the Arkansas Department of Health since 1987 until resigning the weekend before the hearing, was responding to a

few of her own quotations, such as:

— "Abortion opponents need to 'get over their love affair with the fetus.'"

— "We taught them what to do in the front seat (of a car). Now it's time to teach them what to do in the back seat."

Such statements, as well as her public health positions, have resulted in opposition to her confirmation from several groups, including the Christian Life Commission, Concerned Women for America, Family Research Council, Christian Coalition, and American Family Association.

"Dr. Elders epitomizes everything that is wrong with federal public policy on abortion and sex education," said James A. Smith, the Christian Life Commission's director of government relations. "She is an evangelist for abortion and the so-called safe-sex policy which has been such a miserable failure. As such, she will be an aggressive advocate for federally funded, school-based health clinics, which will give away contraceptives and abortion referrals."

Elders said she supports teaching abstinence and does not focus on abortion as the prime solution.

Missionary Johnsonius dies in Argentina crash

CONCEPCION, Argentina (BP) — A car accident claimed the life of first-term Southern Baptist missionary Jim Johnsonius and severely injured his wife, Jan, Aug. 1.

Johnsonius died of chest and head trauma shortly after he arrived by ambulance at a hospital in Concepcion. Mrs. Johnsonius, who suffered a broken pelvis and several other bones, was still in intensive care Aug. 2.

They had left a church meeting in the town of Villaguay and were driving to Buenos Aires, about six hours away, when the accident occurred 13 miles past Concep-

cion at 10 p.m.

Mrs. Johnsonius has been moved to British Hospital in Buenos Aires where she can receive more up-to-date medical care, said Tom Vassar, associate director for the Foreign Mission Board's work in Spanish South America.

Missionaries in Argentina were planning funeral services for Johnsonius. Mrs. Johnsonius has asked that her husband be buried in Argentina, Vassar said.

The two were appointed missionaries by the Foreign Mission Board in June 1991 and had lived about a year in Villaguay. He was a church music promoter.

Senate committee adopts non-profit postal reform

WASHINGTON (ABP) — A Senate committee approved legislation July 22 that would reform how non-profit postal rates are calculated, adding stability to the rates while increasing them slightly over the next six years.

In recent years, the postal subsidy has been reduced as government has attempted to cut spending. The compromise, drafted by Rep. William Clay, D-Mo., was drawn after the Clinton administration proposed 150 spending

cuts that included funding for preferred postal rates.

While saving the government \$152 million over four years, it would have resulted in a 35% rate hike Oct. 3 for non-profit mailers, such as the Baptist Record.

The Clay compromise would mean a 12% increase — about 2% annually for six years — for second-class non-profit publications. Third-class non-profit publications would face a 23% hike — about 4% each year.

Churches adopt Expanded Annuity Plan

The following churches have adopted the Expanded Annuity Plan since those reported in the July 15 issue of the Baptist Record: Trinity (Southaven); Panola: Shady Grove; and Rankin: Cross Roads.

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BAPTIST RECORD PAGE 5



Archeological dig

William Carey College professor Daniel Browning (top photo) stands on a hill overlooking Tel Beth Shean, an excavation site in Israel where he and six WCC students worked June 21-July 24. The group, along with other students from Germany and Israel, worked near the edge of the tel, primarily in remains from the Middle Bronze Age. Beth Shean is best known as the city where King Saul's body was hung on the wall (1 Sam. 31:10-12). WCC student Eric Wade (right photo) worked with a German student to uncover several street surfaces. One of the group's finds was Wade's discovery of a Canaanite reli-



gious figurine. One of their most significant finds was the 3,600-year-old remains of an infant buried in a pottery storage jar.

Gifts to Mississippi's Baptist colleges respond to needs of student-scholars

By Robbie L. Bell

The vision and generosity of Mississippi Baptists in their estate planning often determine the ability of the state's youth to attend a Baptist-sponsored college. Mississippi College (MC) works closely with interested individuals to develop endowments and other provisions to build scholarship opportunities.

Recent MC graduate Rob Futral, son of Jim Futral, pastor of Broadmoor Church in Jackson, was the first recipient of the Sidney Harper Ministerial Scholarship established in 1989 by his widow, Beryl Barnes Harper. The Harpers were active members of Prentiss Church in Prentiss.

Futral is now enrolled in New Orleans Seminary to pursue his calling in the ministry.

"The Harper Scholarship was an answer to prayer for me and made it possible for me to attend MC. Mrs. Harper always sent me birthday cards and other notes of encouragement on a regular basis," Futral said.

Mrs. Harper decided to provide additional funding to MC in the form of the Beryl Barnes Harper Endowment, designated for an outstanding young woman who has demonstrated maturity in past responsibilities and shows promise of excellence in the future.

Amanda Bacon, daughter of Bill Bacon, minister of music at First Church in Clinton, is the current recipient of Mrs. Harper's scholarship. She hopes to enter the medical field and is very active in campus life.

"I am very appreciative to Mrs. Harper for giving her money and time to set this up. People some-

times forget what it is like being in college, so when someone does give, it is really special," she said.

Beryl Harper's love of books led her also to remember the MC library. There will be an annual income for the library as a result of her conscientious devotion to Christian education at MC.

Rory Lee, vice-president of institutional advancement at MC, feels the Harpers provide an excellent example of what can be done with

careful financial structuring.

"The young men and women who will receive these scholarships over the coming years are truly blessed. I just wish they could all have known these fine and compassionate people. Mrs. Harper passed away in 1991, but her love for Mississippi College and its young people is a legacy that will live on," he said.

Bell is a publicist for Mississippi College.

TV violence warning labels don't carry a lot of weight

(ABP) — Don't expect the TV networks' new on-air violence advisories to do much good, observers say.

The country's four major networks — ABC, CBS, NBC, and Fox — announced in June they will attach warning announcements to heavily violent programs beginning this fall. The proposal is viewed as a compromise intended to avoid government regulation of TV violence.

But critics are wondering what good the advisories will do. Only one new program slated for a fall debut is expected to carry the warning — "NYPD Blue" on ABC.

Most observers said the warnings will do little to reduce violence and offer little practical help for parents. The warnings may in fact only promote viewership of violence by attracting the curious, according to Quentin Schultze, author of the book *Redeeming Television*, on the effects of television viewing, and professor of communication at

Calvin College, in Grand Rapids, Mich.

Baptist ethics specialists agreed. "The guidelines appear to be more window-dressing than substance," said Louis Moore, director of media for the Christian Life Commission.

The anti-violence proposal came as time was running out on the networks to take action.

In 1990, when Congress passed the Television Program Improvement Act, lawmakers gave the TV industry a three-year exemption from anti-trust laws so they could draft a joint agreement to address the problem of TV violence.

With that exemption due to expire soon, and with no action from the TV industry, a new law was introduced in the Senate May 12 to mandate violence warnings. Before the bill could be considered, however, the networks announced their voluntary guidelines, which closely parallel the Senate bill introduced by Sen. David Durenberger, R-Minn.

To be salt and light...

God can use church to respond to suicidal cries

By Bill Blackburn

Most suicides are preventable. There are those exceptional instances when a person is so committed to taking his or her own life that even skilled professionals will find it difficult to prevent death by suicide. But these are the exceptions rather than the rule.

The majority of people who are suicidal are ambivalent about life. A part of them wants to live. A part of them wants to stop living. They are "sitting on the fence" with life on one side and death on the other.

Because of this ambivalence, God can use us to help prevent a suicide by a family member, neighbor, or co-worker. We cannot and should not try to take the place of trained professionals in this dangerous arena, but we can be on the front line of defense to perceive suicidal thoughts and behavior, determine the level of intent, and get the person to professional help.

What does the Bible say about suicides? There are seven suicides reported in the Bible. Six are in the Old Testament (Judges 9:50-55; Judges 16:23-31; 1 Sam. 31:1-10; 1 Chron. 10:1-6; 2 Sam. 17:23; and 1 Kings 16:8-20). Only one death by suicide, the suicide of Judas, is in the New Testament (Matt. 27:5). There are, however, many places in Scripture where suicidal thoughts are expressed, including some by heroes of the faith. The Bible does not hide the reality that some have "cursed the day they were born" and some have darkness as their only companion (Psalm 88:19, TEV).

Although the Bible reports the seven suicides with little comment or condemnation, the clear teaching of Scripture is that suicide is wrong. Life is a gift from God and is to be used responsibly and redemptively.

But in the face of the growing number of suicides each year, is there anything the untrained layperson can do to prevent a suicide? Yes, there certainly is, because parents, teachers, Sunday School workers, coaches, friends, and co-workers are on the front line of defense in the battle against suicide. If you are aware of them, you can be the first to pick up on the signs of suicide and then respond appropriately. But what are those signs?

Signs that point to potential suicide can be divided into four broad categories. The first is the stress category. Two distinctions need to be made here. One, it is important to understand how the person views stress. To you it may seem minimal, but what you deem minimal may seem monumental to the other person. The second distinction regarding stress relates to the coping ability of the person. Someone may handle stress well for a long time and then be overwhelmed by it. When the coping ability begins to wither, the chance for suicide or suicidal thoughts increases significantly.

The second major category of

signs of suicide is personal history. Has there been a previous attempt at suicide? If so, the risk of suicide is greater because, although only 10% of all people who attempt suicide eventually take their own lives, 45% of all who complete suicide have previously contemplated it. Another clue would be the death during the person's childhood or adolescence of a person to whom he or she was especially close. This death would be even more significant if it were by suicide. Two other personal history signs would be a history of depression and/or a history of being abused as a child.

Third, there are behavior signs. When attentive to the potential of suicide, we must listen to the language of behavior: sudden interest in burial plans, wills, and life insurance; sudden changes in behavior and mood; obtaining a means of suicide such as a gun or pills; a suicide note; and signs of withdrawal and isolation.

Fourth, there are verbal clues. Verbal clues include such statements as the following: "I'm not the man I used to be," "My family would be better off without me," "Whatever happens to me I don't want you to feel guilty," "Here take this _____ (valued possession). I won't be needing it anymore," "I just want to tell you

good-bye and let you know you mean a lot to me," "Do you think a person who commits suicide will go to hell?"

Not all people who die by suicide give such verbal clues, but many do. It is a myth that if a person talks about it they won't do it.

On any one day you may see a number of clues among several people. The important thing is to look for a cluster of clues. When you have noted several signs that make you suspicious, what do you do? You may talk with a mutual friend of the person or one of his/her family members.

This would have to be someone whose judgment you trust. If your suspicions are confirmed or even if they are denied by the other person, and you still feel there is the possibility of suicide, then your next step may be to talk directly with the person.

You may begin by explaining some of the things you have noted, expressing concern, and asking if you are correct that the person has been depressed or particularly disturbed. Listen carefully to the response. Do not be afraid to ask, "Have you become so concerned/sad/depressed that you have considered harming yourself?" Mentioning this possibility will not plant the

idea and may give the person a needed chance to talk.

If the person has thought about suicide, has determined a plan to take his/her life, and has the available means to carry out the plan, then the situation is a crisis requiring immediate and careful attention. Try to stay with the person and keep them talking without getting into an argument about suicide. Seek to find out who the best family member or friend would be to talk with the person. Begin to develop a plan of action whereby you will get the person to professional help. Although you can pick up on the signs of suicide and do some assessment of the danger, when there is a suicide crisis, professional help is needed.

Professional help may come from a psychologist, a psychiatrist, a family physician, a clinical social worker, a pastoral counselor, or hospital chaplain. There may be a suicide prevention center in your community. Your minister can aid you in finding the right kind of help.

If the danger of suicide is immediate, an attempt is in progress, or other lives are at risk, law enforcement authorities should be called.

All of this sounds rather frightening, and we can hope we would

never have to deal with such a crisis. But the fact is, we may.

What can churches do to prevent suicide? Some of the most powerful suicide prevention will be done by the church just doing what it ought to do as the church.

From the New Testament Book of Acts, we know the church is to preach the good news of Jesus (kerygma), teach and equip the believers (didache), and be a fellowshiping community (koinonia). We fail to realize sometimes the power in good worship services, strong Bible teaching and training, and the gathering together of brothers and sisters in Christ.

Second, preach and teach the sanctity of life. Any practice that treats life as if it were cheap and easily expendable must be challenged. Tough and complicated though they are, abortion, suicide, euthanasia, capital punishment, the level of violence now accepted in American society, and the issues of war and peace must be tackled by the church and the pulpit.

Third, inform the church workers about the motivations of suicidal people, the signs of suicide, and sources of help. Again, this is based on the understanding that the front line of defense against suicide is people — people who are regularly coming in contact with those who may be suicidal.

Fourth, seek a variety of ways to equip the congregation in caregiving. I am convinced that although this is not everyone's spiritual gift, all people can be trained in the basics of care giving.

Fifth, get the salt out of the shaker. We as Christians are to be the salt of the world. But we need to get out there to be that salt. Encourage your church either to work with existing ministries in the community or to begin some ministries to hurting people.

The reality is that in spite of our efforts and the efforts of others to prevent them, some suicides do occur. When they do, we as the body of Christ need to respond with support and love. It is too easy to blame or judge following a suicide attempt. What is needed instead is loving presence that does not need to know all the details nor have an answer to why. Following a suicide or attempt, the family members and friends need someone with whom they can express their grief, their guilt, their confession, and their anger.

Suicide and attempted suicides are almost always cries for help. As Christians we can respond to those cries for help. We can look for the signs of suicide, pray with and for the person, and seek the professional help that may be needed. And, when suicides occur, we can stand with the grieving to share the love that is ours because God in Christ stands with us. (BP)

Blackburn is pastor of Trinity Church, Kerrville, Texas, and author of the book, "What You Should Know About Suicide."

Tough questions, gratitude followed son's troubled life

By Cecil Sims

It has been nearly 12 years since we received the phone call, "Cecil, we found David dead this morning. He took his own life with a handgun."

Only those who have received this message can know its impact. It was not an unexpected message. We had known for many years that his spells of deep depression could lead to such tragedy. We had sought spiritual, emotional, and medical help for many years, but to no avail.

From his entrance into puberty until the time of his death at age 27, he knew little peace or joy. Mentally brilliant, but socially not well-adjusted because of his obsessive and compulsive nature, he could not receive love or develop normal relationships. After 13 years of mental and emotional misery, he sought peace in death.

Recently, in a meeting with our convention staff, we were sharing burdens. One of the senior staff members looked to me and said, "Sims, you and Jeannine have suffered one of the most difficult of life's tragedies.... How have you been able to handle it so well... without it nearly destroying you? Would you mind sharing how you have handled it?"

I replied, "I'm not sure we have handled it all that well." But we have managed not to permit it to destroy us. Satan was not going to have that victory. We went through all the pain of self-examination and faced the normal questions: What did we do wrong? What else could we have done? Why did not God answer our prayers? — questions to which there were no satisfying answers.

In the midst of the years of family turmoil caused by David's emotional state, we had reached some conclusions. We had four children, and we could not permit the hurts of one to destroy the normalcy of the other three. We had a calling which could not be vacated, neither our calling as a parent or pastor; so we must remember, God has not lost control or forgotten us.

Some prayers were answered wonderfully, but David

had no victory or relief. Why, we will not know this side of glory, but God was still God and we knew he would not put more on us that we could bear, even if the load was pretty heavy at times.

Another fact gave us some help. God loved our David more than we did, and our David was more God's than ours. God had only given him to us to raise, and we were doing the best we knew how.

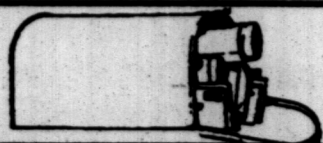
At times (when he was violent) we were tempted to reach very self-deprecating conclusions. Finally, I told my wife, one of two things is true, either we are a miserable failure and have produced a very abnormal child (and some of the mental health community were willing to place this responsibility on us) or God gave David to us so he could have the best possible chance to become normal.

We offered love, security, openness, patience, moral training, and loyalty; the best moments he had were fleeting moments of family relationships. We chose to believe that we were faithful stewards of the parenting opportunity and in the midst of the years of heartache and final heartbreak, God was teaching us to trust, not question; to persevere, not despair; and to realize he was carrying us, not having forsaken us.

Since David's death 12 years ago, we have chosen to thank God for David, not resent him for not healing our son. We know David is no longer suffering. While the manner of his death was heartbreaking and tragic, his eternal destiny is more important than the manner of his death.

It is better to look forward to a "whole David" than to weep over the loss of a tormented son. Seldom is there an hour when I don't think about David, but peace comes because he is with his Lord whom he loved. (BP)

Cecil Sims is executive director-treasurer of the Northwest Convention, Portland, Oregon.



Letters to the editor



Wisdom is asset

Editor:
A big Amen! for the two gentlemen who recently wrote letters in support of pastors over 60 years of age being given a chance to continue pastoring and being considered by churches for the pastorate. It is through years of experience in the pastorate that they have acquired such wisdom and leadership ability that is invaluable to the pastorate ministry. I truly feel that many of our internal church problems could be eliminated if we sought the leadership and listened to the wisdom of our senior pastors. God used Solomon in a great way to lead a nation because he had been blessed with such wisdom.

Also, in addition to supporting our senior pastors, we need to support the "forced terminated" pastor. Just because a pastor has been "forced terminated" doesn't necessarily mean that he or his family have done anything wrong! In fact, they may have done something right by taking a biblical stand on an issue. Don't throw them out with the garbage. They can be a real blessing and source of enrichment because of what

God has brought them through.
Name withheld by Editor

Valdez says thanks

Editor:
Somehow the First Baptist Church of Valdez, Alaska, would like to say "thank you" to Mississippi Baptists. Every expression seems so trite when cast against our experiences of the past six weeks.

Since June 14, 69 lovely, dedicated Christians, who normally serve the Lord in Mississippi, have served the Lord in Valdez. In doing so, they have built an educational extension of over 3,500 sq. ft., painted the present building, and taught us a little more about sharing Christian love among the brethren. For many in Valdez, the fact that you could love us that much is beyond their understanding. The witness continues.

The first group from Raymond Church took our construction from floor joists to a dried-in building complete with roofing — even if they had to work the morning they were leaving to finish. First Church, Jackson, followed with 15 hard workers who were asked to do "everything no one else wanted

to do," and they did it well. Then, Gulf Coast Association arrived with electricians, sheet rock hangers, carpenters, etc., just in proper order, it seemed.

Today they are all gone! There is a strange quietness in the basement of First Church, Valdez, but it seems more like a morgue than a resting. We are about 90% complete. Money is short. Winter is coming, some of the leaves are beginning to turn, but deep down within there emanates a warmth that wants to praise God and push ahead. We are challenged to reach our corner of God's world with a new vigor for missions because you came.

Maybe we can't do a very good job of saying, "Thanks, Mississippi Baptists, for who you are," but we are convinced that one day we will be standing before our King, and he will look over toward that bunch who just arrived in Glory from Mississippi, tired, sleepy, with hammers in their belts and cameras around their necks, and say: "Well done, good and faithful servants, remember Valdez?"

Thanks for coming. Let's do it

again sometime. You make it easy to do missions no matter how long the ropes, knowing they are held by people like you.

Gene Medaris, pastor
First Church, Valdez, Alaska

Yazoo seeks photos

Editor:

First Church, Yazoo City, will begin a year-long observance on Aug. 22 leading into our sesquicentennial year in 1994. Our church was organized in 1844 and is one of three churches in Yazoo Association observing a 150th anniversary this year or next.

As we draw nearer to this significant anniversary, we would like to request help from the Baptist Record readers in securing pictures of these men: S.I. Caldwell, 1843-1845; P.P. Bowen, 1846; J.B. Gage, 1846; S.W. Sexton, 1848; William Crane, 1849-1850; J.K. Clinton, 1852; F.M. Logue, 1858; G. Whitfield, 1859-1860; W.W. Keep, 1861; A.A. Lomax, 1869-1870; W.C. Friley, 1871-1873; T.M. Rhymes, 1878; T.J. Walne, 1886; J.R. Croom, 1887-

1889; W.A. McComb, 1893; A.J. Miller, 1894-1899; W.A. Jordan, 1907-1909; and J.H. Fuller, 1916-1918.

Anyone with information on any of these men is urged to contact First Baptist Church, P. O. Box 780, Yazoo City, MS 39194, or call (601) 746-2471.

Linda Jenkins
Church Secretary

Former MBC president Davis dies

J.R. Davis, 84, retired pastor living in Meridian, died July 28. Davis had served as president of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, and held pastorates in Columbia, New Albany, and Batesville. He also served on three successive search committees for the position of executive director/treasurer of the MBCB.

He is survived by his wife Claudine and a daughter, Patricia, of Monroe, La.

Missionary News

Edward and Bettie Lockwood, missionaries to Rwanda, have arrived in France for a year of language study (address: 25, rue Grand Marche, 3700 Tours, France). She is the former Bettie Hitt of Slate Springs.

Mike and Wanda Newton, missionaries to Korea, are in the States (address: 103 Emerald, Apt. 217, Minden, LA 71055). The former Wanda Dedeaux, she was born in Hattiesburg.

Barry and Marleen Robinson, missionaries to Zimbabwe, are in the States (address: Meadowview Baptist Church, 300 Linden Circle, Starkville, MS 39759).

Bob and Sherry Sims, missionaries to Ghana, are on the field (address: P.O. Box 400, Accra, Ghana). She is the former Sherry McCraw of Jackson.

Help!

A Canon Sure-Shot camera with a mega-zoom lens was lost at Youth Night. If found, please call Jason Crider at (601) 939-7655 or Patricia Dalton at (601) 359-3510.

Revival Results

Vaiden (Carroll-Montgomery): July 11-16; eight professions of faith, one by letter; Keith Cook, Springfield, Tenn., evangelist; Jamey Shannon, Bay Springs, music; Leon Holly, pastor.

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WMU lists training dates

The schedule for WMU Church Leader Training meetings to be held throughout the state has been set. An article in the PrayerGram section of the July 29 "Housetops" insert listed the training dates as Aug. 9-14. Those dates were incorrect.

The correct schedule follows:

Aug. 5	First Church	New Albany	6:30-9 p.m.
	First Church	Biloxi	6:30-9 p.m.
Aug. 6	First Church	New Albany	9 a.m.-noon
	First Church	Biloxi	9 a.m.-noon
Aug. 7	First Church	Greenville	9 a.m.-noon
	Tylertown Church	Tylertown	9 a.m.-noon

Training at Camp Garaywa was held Aug. 2-4. For more information, contact the WMU office at the Baptist Building, (601) 968-3800.

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Revival Dates

Ebenezer, Bassfield: Aug. 8-11; Sunday, 11 a.m., lunch served, and 1:15 p.m. service; Mon.-Wed., 7 p.m.; Darrin Wiggington, evangelist; Donna Sinclair, music.

Roseland Park, Picayune: Aug. 8-11; Steve Stone, Jackson, evangelist; Greg Green, Poplarville, music.

Mt. Gilead, Meridian: Aug. 8-13; Sunday, 10:45 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Mon.-Fri., 7 p.m.; Danny Lanier, evangelist; Hubert Greer, music; Jim Smith, pastor.

Farmhaven (Hinds/Madison): Aug. 8-13; Sunday, lunch served following 11 a.m. service and 7 p.m.; Mon.-Fri., 7 p.m.; Edward L. Griffin, Ridgeland, evangelist; Gene Rester, Jackson, music; Norman G. Walker Jr., pastor.

Ruth (Lincoln): Aug. 8-11; Sunday, regular services; Mon.-Wed., 7 p.m.; Jimmy Houston, pastor, speaker; Chad Moak, music.

Goodwater, Forest: Aug. 8-11; Sunday, lunch in fellowship hall; 7:30 p.m. nightly; Maxwell Price, Mize, evangelist; Wayne Thornton, Forest, music; John Adcock, pastor.

McLaurin Heights, Pearl: Aug. 8-11; Sunday, 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.; Mon.-Wed., lunch provided at noon services from 11:50 a.m.-12:45 p.m., and 7 p.m.; Ferrell O. Cork Jr., Tupelo, evangelist; William "Bill" R. Herman, Brookhaven, music.

New Goodhope (Scott): Aug. 8-11; Sunday, Sunday School, 10 a.m., worship, 11 a.m., covered dish lunch, and 1:30 p.m. service; Mon.-Wed., 7:30 p.m.; M. L. Wallace, Columbia, evangelist; Danny Harrison, music; Paul D. Smith, pastor.

New Hope, Foxworth: Aug. 8-13; Sunday, 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.; Tues. and Thurs., 11 a.m., potluck dinner; Mon.-Fri., 7 p.m.; Micky Ferguson, Raleigh, evangelist; Paul Powell, Columbia, music;

Homecomings

First, Nettleton: Aug. 8; 10:30 a.m.; William T. Dixon, Vaughn, former pastor, guest speaker; covered dish in fellowship hall at noon; George C. Johnson Jr., pastor.

Juniper Grove, Poplarville: Aug. 8; services, 10:30 a.m.; Dennis Allen, Harrisville, guest speaker; covered dish in fellowship hall; Doris Traylor, music; Phil Hanberry, pastor.

Wildwood, Laurel: Aug. 8; homecoming and youth choir reunion; services, 10 a.m.; lunch served.

Center Ridge (Yazoo): Aug. 8; 101st anniversary; the theme for this year is A New Generation; services, 10 a.m. to noon with dinner on the grounds.

Kent Campbell, pastor.

Oak Grove, Shubuta: Aug. 8-13; Sunday, 11 a.m. and 6:30 p.m.; Mon.-Fri., 7 p.m.; Billy Brumfield, Quitman, evangelist; Harold Hollisworth, Meridian, music; Billy Whitaker, pastor.

Oak Grove, Lake: Aug. 8-11; Sunday, 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.; Mon.-Wed., 7:30 p.m.; Tommy Anderson, Pearl, evangelist; Ted and Nelda Jones, music; Victor R. Vaughn, pastor.

Phalti, Prentiss: Aug. 8-13; Sunday, 11 a.m. and dinner on the grounds; Mon.-Fri., 7 p.m.; Mike Jackson, Birmingham, Ala., evangelist; Mark Thompson, Collins, music; Tim Moore, pastor.

Shifalo, Kiln: Aug. 8-11; Sunday, 11 a.m.; 7 p.m. nightly; Bobby Perry, Gulfport, evangelist; Donna Torres, Kiln, music; Talmadge (Talley) Rayborn, pastor.

First, Sumrall: Aug. 8-11; Sunday, 10 a.m. and 7 p.m.; Mon.-Wed., 7:30 p.m.; W. D. "Step" Martin, Shreveport, La., evangelist; Price Harris, Shreveport, music; Glenn Davis, pastor.

Liberty, DeKalb: Aug. 8-13; Sunday, homecoming, Sunday School, 10 a.m.; worship, 11 a.m.; noon lunch in fellowship hall; service at 1 p.m. with singing and testimonies; Mon.-Fri., 7:15 p.m. nightly; supper in fellowship hall, 6 p.m.; Malcolm Lewis, Meridian, evangelist; Max Burris, Meridian, music; James Rawlings, pastor.

Concord, Ackerman: Aug. 8; Sunday, homecoming, services at 11 a.m. with Ralph Cain, former pastor as speaker; covered dish lunch served at noon; singing at 1:30 p.m. with The Spokesman and New Horizon; Mon.-Fri., services, 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.; Robert V. (Vollie) Scott and Betty J. Scott, Seligman, Mo., evangelistic team; Jerry Wise, interim pastor.

Glade, Laurel: Aug. 8-11; Sunday, lunch at noon and afternoon singing; Mon.-Wed., lunch at 11 a.m. followed by services; 7 p.m. nightly; Larry Duncan, preaching, and the Duncan Sisters, music; Mike Thompson, pastor.

Rocky Springs (Yazoo): Aug. 6-8; Sunday, homecoming with dinner served in fellowship hall; Tim George, Bolton, evangelist; Barry Swartz, pastor, music leader.

Kolola Springs, Caledonia: Aug. 8-11; Sunday, 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.; Mon.-Wed., 7:30 p.m.; different evangelist each night; Jim Armstrong, Nettleton, music; Don Harding, pastor.

Mars Hill (Winston): Aug. 8-11; Sunday, 11 a.m. and 7 p.m. nightly; Tuesday night will be youth night; Thomas Cheeks, evangelist; Charles Fowler, music; Tony Linley, pastor.

Pilgrims Rest, Ethel: Aug. 8-11; Sunday, 11 a.m., lunch, and 7 p.m.; Mon.-Wed., 7:30 p.m.; Tues., 7 p.m. with Howard Family Singers; Aaron Lewis, Senatobia, evangelist; Andy and Rose Ann Doty, McCool, music; Walter Hines, pastor.

Salem, Raymond: Aug. 8-11; Sunday, homecoming, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Mon.-Wed., 7 p.m.; Guy Henderson, Clinton, evangelist; Rick Green, Jackson, music; Daniel Hall, pastor.

Union Church (Union): Aug. 8-13; Sunday, homecoming, 11 a.m. and lunch served in fellowship hall; Mon.-Fri., 10:30 a.m. and 7 p.m.; Talmadge Smith; Brookhaven, evangelist; Tim Hudson, pastor.

Barton, Lucedale: Aug. 8-13; Sunday, 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.; Mon.-Fri., 12 p.m. and 7 p.m.; Robert Blann, Eldorado, Ark., evangelist; Ronnie Cottingham, Lucedale, music; Gary L. Strehlow, pastor.

Montrose (Jasper): Aug. 8-13; Sunday, 11 a.m., dinner on the grounds, and 7 p.m.; Mon.-Fri., 7:30 p.m.; Jim Pender, Antioch Church, evangelist; Wayne Bishop, music; Bill Hutto, pastor.

Pine Grove, Magee: Aug. 8-11; Sunday, 11 a.m. with dinner in fellowship hall and afternoon service at 1:30; Mon.-Wed., 7 p.m.; Charles Burnham, evangelist; Pete Ainsworth, music; Jerry Sullivan, pastor.

Glading, Magnolia (Amite): Aug. 6-8; Fri.-Sat., 7:30 p.m.; regular Sunday morning service with dinner in fellowship hall, and afternoon service at 1:00; David Fortenberry, Liberty, evangelist; Joni Wilkinson, Summit, music; Charles Kirkfield, pastor.

Macedonia, Brookhaven: Aug. 8-11; Sunday, 11 a.m., covered dish lunch in family life center, and 7 p.m.; Mon.-Wed., noon; Paul G. Jones, Christian Action Commission, MBC, Jackson, evangelist; Freddy Franks, Rayville, La., music; Robert Perry, pastor.

Midway, Newton: Aug. 8-11; Sunday, 11 a.m. with dinner in fellowship hall, and 7 p.m.; Mon.-Fri., 7:30 p.m.; Rick Hammarstrom, Madison, evangelist; Marion Felton, Lawrence, music; Wayne Miley, pastor.

Robert Trotter dies in Florida

Robert W. Trotter, 59, died July 23 in Pensacola, Fla., where he had served as director of pastoral care and clinical pastoral education at the Baptist Hospital.

A native of Bolton, Trotter was ordained at Beulah Memorial Church in the Brownsville community of Hinds County. He was a graduate of Mississippi College, Southern Seminary, and New Orleans Seminary. He was co-author of the book *Growing Older, Growing Wiser*.

He is survived by his wife, Martha; daughter Mary Dean Keyes of Fort Worth, Texas; son Frank of Enterprise; stepmother Florence Trotter of Clinton; two brothers; and two grandsons.

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Names in the News

Thursday, August 5, 1993

BAPTIST RECORD PAGE 9

Just for the Record



Oak Grove Church, Scott County, honored its pastor and his wife, Victor R. and Joyce Vaughn on their 20th anniversary, July 25. Following the morning worship service they were presented a basket containing \$20 bills.

Author Evelyn Christenson will be a special guest for six weeks on ACTS's "How can I live?" program beginning Aug. 13. All programs will be aired Fridays at noon EST. The best selling author, who is also founder of United Prayer Ministry, will be teaching from her study guide: Evangelistic Praying.

Cliff Fortenberry, minister of music at Twin Lakes Church, Jackson, received his Ph.D. in communications from the University of Southern Mississippi. He also teaches speech and communication at Mississippi College.

Edward Ludlow, associate professor of organ and church music at Blue Mountain College, will present an organ recital at 8 p.m. on Sept. 7 in Modena Lowrey Berry Auditorium. The recital is presented in honor of May Hall Buchanan, organist of Lowrey Church for over 60 years.



Robinhood Church, Brandon, recently began its first missions organizations. Charter participants in the organizations (from left) are: RAs, above left, back row, Rickie Chayers, leader; John Earles, leader; front row, Chris Sanchez, Eric Ferren, Robert Swear, Jeremy Wood, and Gene Earles. Acteens, above right, are: back row, Christina Bryan, Aniesha Earls, leader; Lisa Swear; front row, Tanya Aycock, Connie Aycock, Rachel Gilbert, and (not pictured) Rhonda Shaw. GAs, at right, are: Linda Nerren, leader; Lynn Ashley, Candice Quick, April Nerren, Joanna Swear, and Katie Coker.



Missionary News

George Steward, pastor of Longview Church, Belden, and director of the seminary extension program in Pontotoc Association, presents seminary extension diplomas to pastors, from left, Tommy Inmon, Immanuel Church; Ray Palmer and Sam Holcomb, both of Pontotoc Association. Looking on is the director of missions, Wade Allen.

Kenneth and Lynn Baker, missionaries to the Ivory Coast, have completed language study in France and arrived on their field of service (address: Mission Baptiste Meridiona, 01 BP 512, Bouake, Ivory Coast). He was born in Booneville.

Curtis and Deanie Ferrell, missionaries to Ecuador, are in the States (address: 1205 Dogwood, Clinton, MS 39056). He grew up in Argentina, where his parents were missionaries. She is the former Deanie Bolls of Jackson.

Johnny and Beth Presley, missionaries to Brazil, are on the field (address: C.P. 48.000, 20. 512-970 Rio de Janeiro, Brazil). He considers Louisville his hometown. The former Beth Neal, she was born in DeKalb and considers Decatur her hometown.



Center Terrace Church, Canton, will celebrate its 61st year of service in Madison County with homecoming services Aug. 8, beginning with morning worship at 9, and concluding with a 1 p.m. concert by the Majesty Quartet. Jerry T. Hood is pastor.

A new book, *Baptismal Manual: Making Baptism More Meaningful*, is now available from the Metro Peoria (Ill.) Baptist Association. Some of the Mississippi contributors to the book are: Jerry Clower, McComb; Bobby Cobb, Caledonia; Donnie Guy, Long Beach; Bill and Cindy Kent, formerly of Leakesville; J.C.

Mitchell, Columbus; Frank Pollard, Jackson; William Sellers, Jackson; and P.J. Scott, Olive Branch.

Proceeds will go to the New Work Fund to help start new churches in the Metro Peoria area. If you desire one of these books (406 pages), order as follows: Make check payable to Metro Peoria Baptist Association and mail to 2018 N. Wisconsin Ave., Peoria, IL 61603 (\$17.95 now plus \$1 for shipping and \$19.95 after Oct. 1).

Diane Bish

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By Michael O'Brien
Ephesians 2:11-3:6

Several years ago I had the privilege of being a part of the Mississippi/Japan partnership mission effort. Walking into the Matsue Baptist Church for the first time was so exciting. I met people who did not look like me, they did not talk like me, and they came from an entirely different culture. We did have one thing in common, they were believers.

See others through Christ's eyes (2:11-13). All of us have a tendency to see others from the world's point of view as well as our own prejudices. Our national origin has nothing to do with ourselves. Remember, God places the spirit within a man, and but for the grace of God you would not be where you are. Thank God for his color-blindness. When God looks on man he sees right through skin and perceives the heart.

Receive others as Christ would (v. 13). Have you ever wondered why you or someone else is not really interested in evangelism? We excuse ourselves by deciding that evangelism is not our gift. Folks, it has nothing to do with our gift, it is his command. The Great Commission of Matthew 28 is marching orders for all of God's army. Paul declares boldly that YOU were "far off." Christ reached out and saved you. "Made nigh" is to say we were brought close to Christ. Perhaps if we really concentrate and understand that those who are far off now are going to die and go to a sinners hell, we will grow out of our apathy and get busy sharing our faith. Jesus is our supreme example of reaching out to others with the gospel.

Help tear down the walls (vv. 14-15). Do we understand what a mediator is? The Word describes Jesus as our Mediator. He is the one who comes between to join us to God. In the not to distant past we watched in near unbelief as the Berlin Wall finally came down. This wall for decades had separated people, families, and friends. We have a way of building our own walls that keep us from doing what we know is right. As we read these verses and see how Jesus used his own wrecking ball to destroy walls that separated us from peace, can we not follow his example and tear down some walls of our own? As Jesus tore down walls, He created a new people; a people marked by oneness. Let's work together to help solve the problems our walls have brought on.

Accept what Christ has done (vv. 16-18). What a wonderful word, "reconcile." Christ mends a broken relationship between God who loves his own and a people who have strayed away from him. Do you know people who are reconcilers? People who try to bring together those who for one reason or another have parted? I have heard of situations where people will not reconcile because they simply cannot accept the fact that someone is willing to receive them. There are people today who have a difficult time believing that Christ died on the cross for their sins! Christian people also need to accept the fact that Christ's blood is shed for their sins after salvation (1 John 1:9). Help the lost understand that Jesus has paid the price, confess, and repent of any sin in your own life.

Accept our "oneness" in Christ (vv. 19-22). Paul uses his famous "therefore" in verse 19, and we had better listen to what he says. Some people reading this do not want to be part of his oneness. God's Word does not say, "I would like for you to be fellow citizens," it says that you are (v. 19). It is time that we all learned that God has "fitly framed together" his people. We are "built upon," we are "fitly framed," we are "built together," for God through his Spirit. If you don't think you like it here, you are going to hate heaven.

O'Brien is pastor, First Church, Lexington.

Bible Book

The danger of false teachers



By Jewel P. Merritt
2 Peter 2:1, 9-14a, 18-21

What a pertinent lesson this is for our day! The recent tragedy in Waco, the New Age movement, and various cults speak of our need to be on the alert against false teachers. How can we recognize false teachers? Jesus warned, "By their fruit you will recognize them" (Matt. 7:16).

False teachers to lead many astray (2:1). From Old Testament days to the present there have been false teachers. In his first letter Peter had warned the church about dangers from without. In this second letter he spoke of the danger from within — false teachers. They secretly or shrewdly introduced their destructive heresies into the church. They even denied the Lord who bought them. This does not mean the false teachers were ever believers. Christ died for all, but an individual must accept him as Savior. I may buy and wrap an expensive gift for you which you in turn may refuse. A gift is not a gift until it is accepted. So it is with Christ's death on the cross. We must believe the wondrous gift of salvation is for us, and we must accept Christ's work on the cross on our behalf. The false teachers denied the Lord, assuring eventual destruction for themselves.

God's judgment on the false teachers (2:9-10a). Using Noah and Lot as examples from the Old Testament, Peter reminded his readers that the Lord knows how to rescue godly men from trials. This assurance is not offered to the unrighteous, the false teachers. By indulging in sexual abuses and unlawful conduct, they assure their destruction.

The false teachers' utter corruptness (2:10b-14a). Peter likened these bold, arrogant men to brute beasts. Even God's good powerful angels do not slander celestial beings. Yet the false teachers ignorantly blasphemed them. In verse 13 Peter declared that they would be paid back for the harm they had done. Even though loyal fans might ridicule an opposing football team, a friend of mine never indulges in such jeers. Her only comment is, "The uglies will come back on you." Hundreds of years ago Moses warned in Numbers 32:23, "...You may be sure your sin will find you out." Peter pointed out in verses 13-14a that the false teachers enjoyed their sin in broad daylight. Every woman was viewed by them as a potential sex partner. They never stopped sinning. Truly they had become like brute beasts.

The false teachers' destructive influence and doom (2:18-21). What a ridiculous picture Peter painted — slaves of depravity offering freedom to others! Jesus said, "...the truth will set you free" (John 8:32b). He is the truth. "I am the way, the truth, the life" (John 14:6). The words of false teachers are empty, promising much but delivering slavery. Since certain destruction awaits those who are misled by false teachers, how can we as Christians determine whether teachers and/or religions are true? Our pastor, Frank Pollard, says the basic question to ask is, "What do they teach about Jesus?" Comments are being made on television by some groups saying that we can learn more about Jesus from their books. That is completely untrue! We need to be on guard against such false claims. The Bible tells us everything we need to know about our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. We need to study the Bible, asking the Holy Spirit to direct our reading and meditating on its truths. We must disciple new Christians. Too often we welcome new Christians with a hearty handshake and not much else. Think how foolish such action would be with a new baby. Newborns need milk, nurturing care from responsible adults, examples to follow, etc. Newborn Christians need the same loving concern. Let us all "Study to show ourselves approved unto God..." (2 Tim. 2:15a).

Merritt is a member of First Church, Jackson.

Life and Work

Repent of hedonism



By Mark A. Rathel
James 4:1-12

Hedonism is a pagan philosophy of life in which pleasure/self is the chief goal. Christianity is the acceptance of the eternal, abundant life of God through Jesus Christ. Jesus said that death to self is a prerequisite for being his disciple. Hedonism and Christianity, therefore, represent opposing spectrums of life.

Some professing Christians, though, exhibit the philosophy of self in hedonism, rather than crucified Christlikeness. James accused the Jewish-Christians he addressed of being motivated by hedon, selfish-pleasure (vv. 1,3). When Christians live for self the result is church fights and quarrels, covetousness, ineffective prayer, spiritual adultery, a broken relationship with God, and slanderous judgments spoken against other Christians.

James describes the ugly results of hedonistic Christianity. This ugly picture, however, can be corrected and beautified through repentance.

Hedonistic Christians cause church strife (vv. 1-3). According to the early-church leader Tertullian, lost people exclaimed concerning Christians, "Behold, how they love one another!" Contemporary lost people may exclaim concerning Christians, "Behold, how they fight one another!" Sadly, wars, that is chronic hostilities, and fights, that is sharp outbursts, are a common reality in church life.

Why are fights prevalent in church life? According to James, church members fight when they are motivated by selfish pleasures. This desire for pleasure may be manifested in a lust for power, position, prestige, or dominance. Selfishness expresses itself with the attitude, "My way or no way!"

Another manifestation of selfishness is sick praying; the term translated into English as "amiss" or "wrongly" literally means sick. Sick pray-ers ask selfish requests. Prayer should orient our lives to God and lead to submission to his will. Sick, selfish prayers is symptomatic of the same disease that produces church fights.

Hedonistic Christians commit spiritual adultery (vv. 4-6). Selfishness is not a minor shortcoming for Christians. God calls Christians who live for self adulteresses. Christians are spiritually unfaithful when the world, rather than God, is the object of their affections. As a husband jealously yearns for his unfaithful wife, God jealously yearns for the heart-affection of his people. Jealousy is God's protective love desiring the best for those who belong to him.

Through God's grace, believers can overcome the world. Divine help is available for Christians who desire to give God first place in their lives.

Hedonistic Christians are commanded to repent (vv. 7-10). W.T. Conner said, "The deepest repentance of the Christian life comes after conversion." Repentance is the means by which a Christian terminates a spiritual affair. Through ten commands, God calls for immediate, decisive action.

Submit means to place under the authority of another. Submission is the voluntary commitment to the authority of God. Satan has a role in spiritual adultery, therefore, Christians are to resist the devil. In any adulterous affair, partners drift apart. When Christians draw near to God through the means of worship, they discover a reciprocal move on God's part. The nearer we are to God the more conscious we are of sin. James, therefore, commands Christians to wash their outward life and purify their inward nature. Repentance involves an emotional response to the consciousness of sin: grieve, mourn, wail. True repentance can not be hidden. Laughter and joy are temporarily suspended by mourning and gloom. This state is not permanent; God will lift up those who humble themselves in repentance.

Hedonistic Christians are agents of the devil (vv. 11-12). The title devil means "slanderer." When Christians speak against one another, they act as agents of the Slanderer. James gives two reasons Christians are not to speak evil against another brother or sister in Christ. First, to disparage a brother/sister disparages God's law — the royal law of love (2:8). Second, critical, judgmental people usurp the authority of God.

Rathel is pastor, Bay Vista Church, Biloxi.

THE VILLAGE VIEW

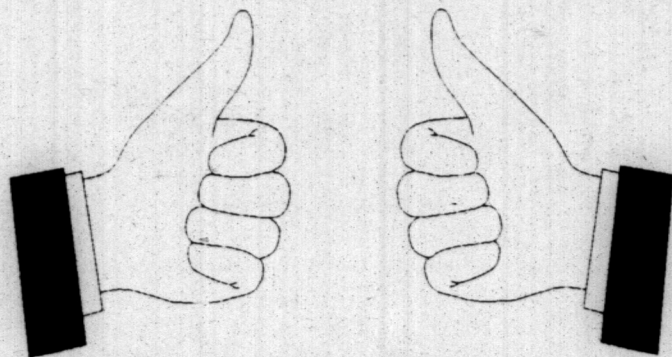
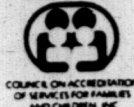


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**Two Thumbs Up for You Guys and Girls
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Village residents received a variety of awards and recognitions during the 1992-93 school year. Below is a listing of those residents along with their respective honors. Photos were not available for all of the recipients.

REEDY ACRES

- Shange Kelley** Certificate for Most Outstanding Achievement Award in Building Trades I
Certificate for Most Improved in Job Skills
Designed pews for children's church for O'Tuckolofa Baptist Church and helped build them
- Thomas Shute** Earned Brown Belt in Karate
Passed test to teach Karate to this point
Won 2nd Place Trophy in Sparring in Karate
Perfect Attendance at Water Valley High School
- Dallas Ramsey** Named one of the Outstanding Vocalists at Water Valley High School Chorus Spring Concert
2nd Year Choral Participation Award
Won 2- 2nd Place Trophies in Form and Sparring in Karate
Won 4th Place in Mile Relay
3 on 3 Champs at FBC, Water Valley, basketball
- Jay Henry** Earned Green Belt in Karate
2nd Place Trophy in Form in Karate
2- 1st Place Trophies in Form and Sparring in Karate
1st Place in FFA Judging of Lambs
3 on 3 Champs at FBC, Water Valley, basketball
- Andy Gatlin** Won Good Listener Award in school
Won 3rd Place in Sparring in Karate Tournament
- Daniel Little** 1993 Water Valley High School Graduating Senior
Received Beta Club Honors
- Bobby Griffin** Perfect Attendance Award at Water Valley Elementary
3rd Place Certificate of Merit for Outstanding Knowledge of Current Affairs
- Kevin Poynor** Received letter from Band Director stating Much Improved in 2nd year Band
- Connie Camp** Perfect Attendance Award
- Sammie Griffin** Perfect Attendance Award

Brenda Poynor

Jessie Griffin



Royston



Strahan



Miller

Jessica Crouse

Patrick Clark

Barbara Plunkett

Jason Delatte

Everett Reynolds

B.J. Henry

Vanessa Green

Bart Floyd

Callie Henry

T.J. Hodgson

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Eddie Pomeroy

Michael Thompson

Johnny Plunkett

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Holly Roberts

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INDIA NUNNERY CAMPUS

1993 Clinton High School Graduating Senior
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Billy Royston

Joseph Strahan

Andy Miller

received Medical Occupations Award and competed in State Medical Occupations Tournament
Joined the Navy in the Delayed Enlistment Program and will go to Basic Training in Great Lakes, Illinois, following graduation from high school in May 1994.

Art Award

CPR Award

FARROW MANOR CAMPUS

Perfect Attendance Award

Perfect Attendance Award

Perfect Attendance Award
RA Pin

Honor Roll

FFA/Participated in Mid-South Fair

Certificate of Award for Creative Scientific Ability in Technical/Skill Exhibition

Manager for 1992-93 Independence High School Football Team
Making plans to play on team for 1993-94 year

Certificate of Completion in Computer Course at Independence High School

Certificate of Award for Outstanding Creative Science Ability
Mississippi Scholastic Chess Award

1,000 Pound Club in Weight Lifting
Continues Participation in Independence High School Football

RA Pin

RA Pin

RA Pin

DICKERSON PLACE

3.82 Grade Point Average for 1992-93 school year

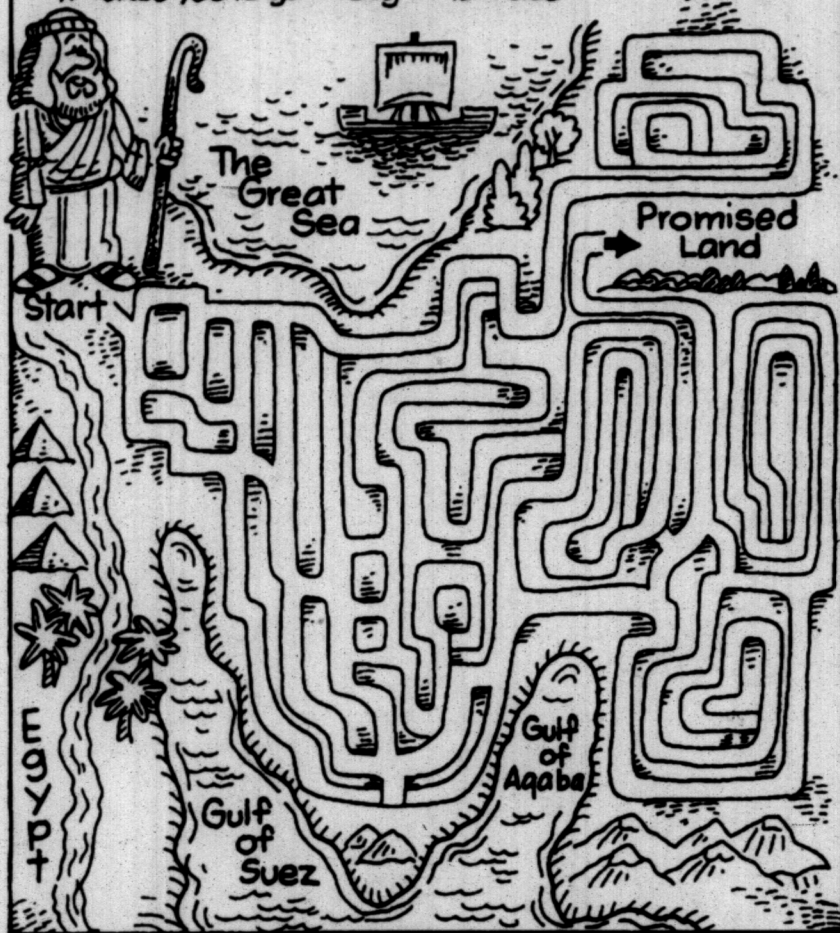
DEANASH

A/B Honor Roll for 1992-93 school year

Perfect Attendance Award

THE EXODUS...

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Source: *Fun Stuff for Kids* ages 4-6 by Michael Streff (Zondervan Publishing House, 1992).

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Improve RAs and GAs complete First Aid

The Royal Ambassadors and Girls in Action organizations at Improve Church, Columbia, were recognized during a recent worship service for their accomplishments in First Aid training. Stacy Nolan, RA leader, and Phillis Allen, GA leader, presented the children with First Aid pins for successfully completing a six-week training course.

Nolan also presented the EMS instructors with certificates of appreciation during the service. They were EMS first responders Johnnie Glover and Dewayne Stuckey, and registered EMTs Chris McNeese and Linda M. Stuckey. Glover and the Stuckeys attend Improve Church.

Coordinated through the Tri-Community Volunteer Fire Department, the students learned 911 procedures, how to respond to various

injuries, and how to assess an accident area and the needs of a patient. The class concluded with a written exam, which all of the children passed with an 80 or better score.

RAs participating in the class were Brandon Petty, Daniel Johnson, Jason Montgomery, Joshua Funderburg, Chris Kendrick, Alex Brewer, Royce Dours, Josh Reagan, Morris Watts, Jeremy Montgomery, Jonathan Glover, Charles Watts, and Drew, Brian, and Garrett Haddox.

GAs participating were Jennifer Glover, Amy Nolan, Samantha Reagan, Jennifer Kearschner, Samantha Morris, and Jollie Patterson.

Along with Nolan and Allen, John Barber and Rachel Glover serve as RA and GA leaders. Dale Funderburg is pastor of Improve Church.



Twenty-one Royal Ambassadors and Girls in Action from Improve Church, Columbia, recently completed a six-week First Aid training course. Pictured with their leaders are some of the children who participated in the class.

CHILDREN'S PAGE

Dear Pen Pal Club:

My name is Emily Freeman. I turned 11 July 31. My hobbies are reading, dancing, and playing school. One day I want to be a teacher. Please write me and I promise I'll write back. My address is 300 N. Manor Creek Rd., Waynesboro, MS 39367.

Emily Freeman

Dear Pen Pal Club,

My name is Kristen Burton. I am nine years old and will be in the 4th grade. My hobbies are riding my bike, swimming, and playing basketball. I will write to boys and girls of any ages. If you would like to write to me, my address is Rt. 7, Box 316F, Tupelo, MS 38801.

Kristen Burton

Dear Pen Pal Club,

Hi! My name is Tania Wolverton. My hobbies are riding bikes, watching TV, drawing, swimming, and writing. I am a Christian and go to First Baptist Church, Meridian. I am 11 and go to Southeast Elementary School. I have two dogs, Snoopy and Stinker. If you would like to be my pen pal, write to me: 1765 Long Creek-Vimville Rd., Meridian, MS 39301.

Tania Wolverton

Dear Pen Pal Club,

Hey! My name is Cassandra Elaine Smith. I am 11 years old. I will be 12 on November 30. I am a Christian and I go to Calvary Baptist Church at Pea Ridge. I will be in the 6th grade when school starts back. I like to ride bikes, collect Barbies, listen to the radio, and read. I have two cats. Their names are Blacky and Spunky. I would like to have a boy or girl for a pen pal. If you would like to be my pen pal, write me at P.O. Box 34, Lake, MS 39092.

Cassandra Elaine Smith

Dear Pen Pal Club,

Hi! My name is Angie Austin. I am 11 years old. I would like to have a boy or girl pen pal. I like swimming, watching TV, and dancing. Please write to Rt. 1, Box 306-A6, West Point, MS 39773.

Angie Austin

Dear Pen Pal Club,

My name is Jessica Morgan. I am 10 years old. I go to church at Morgan Chapel Baptist Church. My hobbies are reading, swimming, playing the piano, singing, playing outside, and watching TV. I would



Pen Pal Club

really like a pen pal. A boy or girl will do. Please write me at 3007 Morgantown Rd., Sturgis, MS 39769.

Jessica Morgan

Dear Pen Pal Club,

My name is Ashley Rowe. I am 10 years old. I will be in the 5th grade next year. I go to Wallerville Baptist Church in New Albany, Miss. My hobbies are swimming, playing outside, riding bikes, and writing to pen pals. My favorite color is pink. I don't mind if my pen pal is a girl or boy. Just write and send a picture. Please write and send to this address: Rt. 1, Box 368-A, New Albany, MS 38652.

Ashley Rowe

Dear Pen Pal Club,

My name is Spence. I am six years old, and will be in the 1st grade. I would like to write to another boy my age. I like to ride my bike, and to go fishing and hunting with my dad. I like to go places, such as Wal-mart, the battle grounds, Memphis, and the national parks. I go to Adaton Baptist Church. Write me at Rt. 3, Box 321, Starkville, MS 39759.

Spence Crabtree

Dear Pen Pal Club,

Hi! My name is Shelley Hughes. I'm 13 years old. I attend Shiloh Baptist Church. My hobbies include swimming, lots of sports, adventure, and hanging out. If you are a boy or girl of any age, please write me at Rt. 1, Box 34C, Big Creek, MS 38914.

Shelley Hughes

Dear Pen Pal Club,

Hi! My name is Sarah Boling. I am 12 years old. I like to swim, read, and cheerlead. I am on the Meridian Swim Team. I will be in

the 7th grade. I go to Northeast Middle School. I would like a girl or boy for a pen pal. My address is: P.O. Box 3492, Meridian, MS 39303.

Sarah Boling

Dear Pen Pal Club,

Hi! My name is Mandi Curtis. I am nine years old. In November I will be 10. When school starts back, I'll be in the 4th grade. My hobbies are reading, singing, and riding bikes. I am a Christian and I go to First Baptist Church, Holly Springs, Miss. I attend Marshall Academy. If you want to be my pen pal, my address is Rt. 1, Box 111-F, Holly Springs, MS 38635.

Mandi Curtis

Dear Pen Pal Club,

My name is Alan Whittington. I am seven years old. I am a member of First Baptist Church, Sardis, Miss. My hobbies are reading, swimming, playing ball, and watching TV. I also like to ride a bike. I was saved June 14, 1993. I would really like a pen pal. So write me at 105 Rollins Drive, Batesville, MS 38606.

Alan Whittington

Dear Pen Pal Club,

Hi! My name is Candi Cornelius. I am 10 years old and go to Kosuth Elementary School. My hobbies are swimming, singing, riding bikes, and writing letters. I'm a Christian and go to Glendale Baptist Church. If you would like to write me, my address is Rt. 10, Box 16-BW, Corinth, MS 38834.

Candi Cornelius

Bibliocipher

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CYN QLYZYOGON QADD ZUGO LAZ DACO
ZLUDD DYZO AM; PEM QLYZYOGON ZLUDD
DYZO LAZ DACO CYN HF ZUXO UST MLO IYZ-
BOD'Z, MLO ZUHO ZLUDD ZUGO AM.

HUNX. OAILM:MLANMF-CAGO

Have fun with cryptography and exercise your Bible knowledge. A King James Version Bible verse has been encoded by letter substitution. The same letter is substituted throughout the puzzle. Solve by trial and error. Answer to last week's puzzle: Mark Eight:Thirty-six.

Baptist Record

005-DTM 291 8-05
SOUTHERN BAPT HISTORICAL SD 00
901 COMMERCE ST SUITE 401
NASHVILLE TN 37203

Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205

August 5, 1993